



## MEDIA MONITORS

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GUEST artist ... US singer  
Michelle Shocked.

### Blues buzz hits Byron

ABOUT 10,000 blues fans will hit Byron Bay over the Easter weekend for the ninth annual East Coast Blues Festival.

Despite the huge numbers, organisers expect few problems.

"In the entire eight years we have never had a complaint after the festival," originator and promoter Kevin Oxford said.

"We have monitored growth so that we don't impede on the locals, although it is growing at about 20 percent a year.

"Part of the conditions of our development application mean that we have to take everything off site, and environmental considerations are very important to us."

Mr Oxford said 21 international artists would perform — among them Roger McGuinn, Arlo Guthrie, The Wailers and Michelle Shocked.

Among the 35 Australian acts would be The Cruel Sea, the Black Sorrows, Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs, the Mighty Reapers and Chris Wilson.

The festival will run from today to Sunday.